PIKES PEAK RADIO AMATEUR ASSOC.

Ø BEAT

COLO. SPRINGS, COLORADO

MAY 1969

PUEBLO RADIO CLUB TO PRESENT PROGRAM AT MAY 14 MEETING

The program for the next meeting of the PPRAA, starting at 8 p.m., Wednesday, May 14, at the usual meeting place in the U. S. Naval Reserve Training Center, will be in the hands of the visiting Pueblo Amateur Radio Club.

As a part of the continuing series of programs on Amateur FM radio and repeaters, the members from the Steel City club will present "The Tulsa Repeater Story," a slide documentary about FM repeater development in that area.

Additional visitors schedyled to attend the meeting are Chic Cotterell, WØSIN, the new Colorado SCM, Clyde Penny, WAØHLQ, the new Colorado SEC, and Loren "Bud" Thompson, new Route Manager.

The meeting will provide an opportunity to learn more about FM and repeaters, meet the new Colorado ARRL officials, try your luck at the door prizes, and engage in the usual "eyeball Qsos" with the other members of PPRAA.

Don't forget the time, date and place--8 p.m., May 14, at the Naval Reserve Training Center---oh yes, plus the usual break for refreshments.

WEST GULF DIVISION CONVENTION AT AMARILLO, TEX. AUG. 15-17

(Convention time is in the offing again and in case any of the PPRAA members are interested in spending their vacation(s) attending conventions this summer, Zero Beat will pass on to its readers any and all information received regarding them--Ed.)

The ARRL West Gulf Division will hold its 39th Annual Convention August 15, 16 and 17 at the Holiday Inn West in Amarillo, Texas.

Program for the convention will include "the very latest 'state of the art' technical session," special interest group breakfasts and luncheons (Traffic Nets, RTTY, Army and Navy MARS, RACES, QCWA, DX and other), a Saturday night party and dance, all kinds of contests and a Sunday banquet.

According to the information received, "Registration will be about $10.50 and will include the Sunday banquet, all tech sessions and rights to participate in contests and awards. The big pre-convention party, dance, and special interest breakfasts and luncheons are extra but will be nominally priced."

Further information and details may be

Continued on Page 2)

ZERO BEAT
Published monthly in the interest of the members of the Pikes Peak Radio Amateur Association, Inc., Colorado Springs, Colo.

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-o-
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The PPRAA meets the second Wednesday of each month in the U. S. Naval Reserve Training Center, Lake and Logan Streets, starting at 8 p.m. All radio amateurs and other interested lersons are invited to attend/

COPY DEADLINE for JUNE ZERO BEAT will be May 28.

MAKE YOUR IDEAS AND DESIRES KNOWN

This issue of Zero Beat carries a form which was designed by PPRAA President Pete Demario to assist the Board of Directors and the editor of Zero Beat determine just what the members of the Pclub want in the way of programs for the meetins and on the pages of Zero Beat.

Here is a "golden opportunity" for each member of the PPRAA to make his or her ideas or desires known.

It's often the practice of the members of a club--and an easy practice at that--to say "if they had the kind of programs I likes, I'd attend more meetings." What is not an easy practice is for the program committee or the editor of Zero Beat to try to guess just what you DO like.

The questionaire in this issue of Zero Beat will give yow, the members of PPRAA, the opportunity to let us know what you do like. And you can b e sure that every possible attempt will be made to satisfity your requests, if they are made known.

-o-

THREE YEARS

This issue marks the completion of three years of editing and publishing Zero Beat, of attempting to put out a publication which would be interesting to members of the PPRAA and as a "fit representative" of an excellent and active group of radio amateurs.

Although we have tried, we realize that we haven't been able to please everybody during the past 36 months we have put out Zero Beat. We realize that we may well have rather antagonzied some members at times/ However any such antagonism was the result of our trying to get something accomplished which we, personally, or a the result of suggestions by other PPRAA members, felt should be accomplished or corrected. Unfortunately, at least as far as the antagonism goes, sometimes the only way to get something done is to get someone "riled up" enough to get an action accomplished. So we'll continue to do so whenever we feel it's the only thing to do.

As we start our fourth year as editor of Zero Beat, We promise to try to continue, with the help of all of you (we hope), to publish a readable and interesting Zero Beat--with the hope that our please for news and other material for Zero Beat will fall on a little less "deaf ears" than in the past.

Zero Beat is intended as YOUR paper--the expression of YOUR interests. Make it truly so by contributing your ideas, your suggestions and your articles.

---Frank, WØHWH

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WEST GULF DIV. CONVENTION

(Continued from Page 1)

obtained from the Panhandle Amateur Radio Club, P. O. Box 5453, Amarillo, Texas 79107.

The program schedule for the next six month's PPRAA meetings is as follows, according to the program committee:

June---Field Day, ARECand cartoon films with George Kowalski, WØGCH in charge of program.

July---Undecided at present. Annual picnic at Austin Bluffs July 13.

August---Undecided at present

September---Semi-annual auction.

October---Annual PPRAA meeting. Election of PPRAA officers and four members of the Board of Directors.

MILITARY TO AMATEUR CROSSBAND TEST SLATED FOR THIS MONTH

According to information gleaned from the "Collector and Emitter" of the Aeronautical Center Radio Club of Oklahoma City, military radio stations WAR, NSS, PG and AIR will be on the air from 171400 GMT to 180245 GMT, Saturday May 17. During this test of crossband operations, the military stations will transmit on specified military frequencies while amateur stations will transmit in the indicated portions of the amateur bands. Contacts will consist of a brief exchange of locations and signal reports. No traffic handling will be permitted.

Unfortunatly that is all the information we have been able to gather at press time. We can't give you the military frequencies but in case you're interested, perhaps some one may have more information at the May 14 PPRAA meeting.

AND YOU THINK $4 FOR A FIVE-YEAR AMATEUR RADIO LICENSE IS HIGH?

(From the San Francisco Courier, via the Aeronautical Center Amateur Radio Club "Collector and Emitter")

"The ARRL has filed a dissent with the Department of Transport in Canada to state opposition to the raising of license fees from $2.50 to $10.00 a year. The Canadian government wishes to balance its budget and the ARRL has no quarrel with this laudable endeavor . . . they just oppose the use of amateurs to do it.

"Thus while you pay $4 for a five year license in the U. S., your friends in VE-land may have to shell out $50 during the same period. The $2.50 fee had existed some forty years now. In its presentation it was pointed out that only Czechoslovakia at $14, the Ivory Coast at $10 or Lebanon at $17 . . . and to quote the ARRL . . . '. . . The United States with its vast bureauocracy has a license fee of 80 cents a year."

"How does $50 for a five year license sound to you? Think it might diminish the QRM . . . or would they just be lost in the howls of pain? Nothing hurts so much as a kick in the pocketbook."

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ROSIE'S REPORTINGS

By Rosemarie Lewis, WAØMNL

-rr-

The PPRAA has received licenses for the club station at the Red Cross Center and for the repeater station on Cheyenne Mountain. The cal for the station at the Red Cross is WAØVTV, with the call of WAØVTU being issued for the repeater.

-rr-

For your planning purposes, the annual club picnic will be held at Austin Bluffs on July 13. More details will appear in a later issue of Zero Beat.

-rr-

Ed and Irene Pompea, KØZPG and KØZWI, are enjoying a recently purchased HW32A.

-rr-

A bouquet of flowers (roses naturally) to Frank Craw, WØHWH, this issue marks three years that he has been editing and publishing Zero Beat. He certainly does deserve the compliments of all PPRAA members for the FB job he has done. It has meant a lot of time and work on his part --I know, for twice during the three years we have picked up Zero Beat from the printers and just stapling and getting it into the mail involved about three or four hours of work. And this is just the "final touch." Prior to this part of getting out Zero Beat Frank has spent hours of editing copy, typing it once to determine the correct spacing of each line for margins, then completely retyping all items on Multilith "master" sheets from which Zero Beat is printed. Additional time for proofreading and corrections and finally delivering the "masters" to the printer. So help Frank out by getting material to him and get it as early as possible. It takes the cooperation of all members to put out a good club paper. And that can't be done without material. We appreciate your work, Frank.

-rr-

Charles "Chic" Cotterell, WØSIN, the new SCM, has made the following appointments: Asst. SCM--Neal Morris, KØTIV, Carbondale. SEC--Clyde Penny, WAØHLQ, Denver. Route Manager--Loren Thompson, WØLRN, Littleton. Phone Activities Manager--Taylor Shreeve, WØXXW, Denver.

-rr-

A LO (League Official) net meets Sundays at 7 p.m. on 3989 MHz. Neal Morris, KØTIV, is NCS and everyone is invited to check in and bring any business they care to before the net.

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George Kowalski, WØGCH, has been renamed as EC for El Paso and Teller Counties.

-rr-

The SCM has announced that there are vacancies in the field of phone managers. Active licensed operators who aim to "do things" with their equipment will find it worth while to earn an appointment in the Communications Department. Why not apply for an appointment as one or more of the following---Official Relay Station; Official Phone Station; Official VHF Station; Official Bulletin Station; Official Observer.

-rr-

Loren Thompson, WØLRN, Route Manager, has sent a message to all interested persons telling of a Colorado Traffic Net Guide he hopes to publish This would assist Colorado amateurs as a means of determining the most effective channels of relaying their traffic. To receive this guide, please send for a questionaire that Loren has prepared to Loren E. Thompson, 6001 South Detroit, St., Littleton, Colo. When the date is completed and the guide is ready

(Continued on following page)

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30 cents each, 4 for $1

OLLIE MAE SHRINER

Box 969, Pueblo, Colo. 81002

ROSIE'S REPORTINGS

(Continued from preceding page)

you will be notified. Hopefully this guide will cost only the postage.

-rr-

Frank Craw, WØHWH, reports a FB trip and two-week vacation in Portland, Oregon, in April. Says that with the exception of a short shower and some wind the day of his nephew's wedding, May 12, (guess some Colorado wind must have followed him), he had nice sunny weather until a couple of days before he returned on April 19. Also "smooth flying" both ways.

-rr-

Notice has been received of a Colorado Slow Speed Net (CSN), with Ed Trump, KØJSP, as Net Manager. Freq. 3745 KHz. starting about May first. No word on the time.

-rr-

Had a FB QSO with Larry and Bonnie Lewis recently on 15 meters. They were on phone patch, I was working the rig here, and Bonnie's folks were on our phone patch. That was hookin' the family all together for a fine Easter QSO.

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These are the times when the young are more than willing to give those older than themselves the full benefit of their inexperience.

OFFICIAL ARRL BULLETINS

-arrl-

215 Field Day, June 28 and 29, will retain all of the popular features introduced in 1968. Only one change takes place this year, permitting those clubs who prefer to set up ahead of time to do so. If set up time takes place before 1900 GMT June 28, the group may operate no more than 24 consecutive hours out of the 27 hour Field Day period. ARRL Affiliated Clubs have been mailed advance copies of the complete rules which, additionally, will appear in May QST.

-arrl-

216 The FCC has proposed rule making to adopt the ARRL petitions requesting an exclusive c.w. band from 144.0 to 144.1 MHz instead of the present one at the top edge of two meters and to permit F1 emission for radioteleprinter from 28 to 28.5 MHz. The comment date is June 11. A brief report will appear in May QST with full details in the June issue.

-arrl-

217 Effective April 27 W1AW changed to Eastern Daylight Saving Time. The full operating schedule for the summer months will appear in May QST. Newly revised copies of the printed information will shortly be available without charge from ARRL, 225 Main Street, Newington, Conn. 06111. Please enclose an addressed stamped envelope to expedite your request.

CW

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YOU, TOO, CAN PASS THE EXTRA CLASS EXAMINATION!!!!

(This article, written by K6YA, which appeared originally in the Foothills Club paper, "Footprint," was reprinted in the Central California Radio Council "Circle"--Editor)

"Experience running a radio school has taught me some 'do's and dont's' in taking the exam and they are passed along to the brethern in the hope they will reduce casualties of aspirants to the Extra Class license.

"If you can copy press from KFS and KPH, which goes out at about 23 wpm, send READABLE code and know the answers to at least 75% of the License Manual or Study Guide questions, there is no reason to muff this test. It's all a matter of your mental and physical attitude when you arrive.

"Decide in advance that you are going to take a well-earned holiday and go to the FCC to find out what the exam is like, so you will know how to prepare for the NEXT one. No studying or cramming the night before---take the xyl out to dinner and a show. Next morning a light breakfast, or better yet, none at all, a quick glance over the few tough questions which you have previously marked in red for a quick review while you ride the bus or train. DON'T drive--too much hassle.

The receiving test, which is first, is really very easy. The first 150 letters are plain language; if you miss a letter you can fill it in by inspection--if you get the time. Just try to get the sense of it as you go along, remember you are there to find out what it's like; you don't give a darn one way or t'other. There are no mixed code groups as in the commercial exam, no KEIZ de MZL SS Floriman, W. SOS SOS SOS. That kind of stuff really separates the men form the boys. Items like Lat. 38 deg. 50 min. N. Long. 123 deg. 37 min W., etc., do not help but they are not in the ham exam.

Now that you have passed the receiving test, you have a chance to make a friend of the examiner on the sending test. First get that old rattletrap key into a comfortable adjustment and then send a string of Vs until your arm and wrist are comfortable. Nobody can send readable copy witha "glass" arm. Remember, don't slur your dots, they are just as important as dashes; send every word solid and firm. Be sure you send words, not just a string of letters which would take a cryptographer to decipher. You think and talk in words, so send that way. Look over each word before you send it; relax your arm or even let go of the key while you look it over. Over-long spacing is a heck of a lot better than too short. Send at a comfortable rate of speed, whether it's 18 or 25 wpm, even if you are a little slow, the examiner will accept it rather than ragged, unreadable stuff. The real test of a wireless operator is--can he remain cool and send readable copy under panic conditions.

"If you have maintained your devil-may-care attitude, you are now up to the written exam, so don't lose it now. Don't look over all the questions to see how tough they are, just begin with No. 1. If you know it cold, answer it. If you are not sure, pass it up and try No. 2. If you come to one like 'Draw a schematic of a radiotelephone transmitter,' which is going to take a lot of time, pass it up for now and go on to the end, answering the ones you know cold. Then add up the number you have answered--if they are over 75% of the total, hand in your paper and go home. If less, start picking out the easiest of the ones you skipped. Keep working at it until you have over 75%. Remember, on the multiple choice questions you have a 20% chance of being right by just guessing. There is no point in sitting there and sweating for 4 or 5 hours as some of the candidates do.

"If you fail, for another $4 you can g

(Continued on Page 8)

To assist your board of directors in preparing monthly programs which will be of interest to the majority, please return this questionaire at your next PPRAA meeting.

Name: _____ Call sign: _____

What program subject(s) would you desire presented in Zero Beat and at the monthly PPRAA meetings? (Check one or more).

☐ Transistor Theory. ☐ Integrated Circuits. ☐ Receivers. ☐ RF Amplifiers.

☐ TVI. ☐ Transmitters. ☐ Antenna Theory. ☐ Propagation Predicitions. ☐ SSB

☐ Satellite Communications. ☐ AM. ☐ FM. ☐ Microwave. ☐ Troposcatter.

☐ Amateur TV. ☐ VHF Repeater Operation. ☐ Radio Teletype. ☐ Communication Emergency Operation. ☐ Communication Net Discipline and Operations.

☐ Other:

How long do you feel our monthly PPRAA meetings should be?

☐ One hour. ☐ Two hours. ☐ Three hours. (Check one).

What time do you feel the meeting should start?

☐ 7 o'clock. ☐ 7:30 o'clock. ☐ 8 o'clock. (Check one).

Please add any comments which you feel would be beneficial to the program.

What would YOU do to help hold member interest in the club and its activities?

HELP YOUR PPRAA. ASK A NON-MEMBER TO JOIN TODAY!!!

Thank you for your help. --Pete Demario, KØUDG, President

YOU, TOO, CAN PASS

(Continued from Page 6)

back next month and try again--but if you maintain the right attitude you won't have to. Not your life, not even your job depends on this exam, so keep cool. Be sure you have a stamped, self-addressed post card with you to hand to the secretary and the chances are you will get it back soon with the terse comment 'You passed the EXTRA Class exam.'"

ZERO BEAT Editor
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